Introduced by Senator Cox

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 13274.8 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 773, as introduced, Cox. Urban water suppliers: groundwater recharge.

Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of waste in accordance with the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit program under the Clean Water Act (federal act) and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (state act).

This bill would provide that the discharge of treated water that meets state and federal drinking water standards, by an urban water supplier into a groundwater basin by means of a groundwater recharge facility, is not a discharge of waste for the purposes of the state act.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The use of a groundwater recharge facility,
- 2 including aquifer and recovery facilities, is an important means
- 3 by which to promote the efficient use of water.
- 4 SEC. 2. Section 13274.8 is added to the Water Code, to read:
- 5 13274.8. (a) Except as otherwise required by the Clean
- 6 Water Act (33 U.S.C. Sec. 1251 et seq.), the discharge of treated
- 7 water that meets state and federal drinking water standards, by an
- 8 urban water supplier into a groundwater basin by means of a

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groundwater recharge facility, is not a discharge of waste for the purposes of this division.

- (b) For the purposes of this section, "groundwater recharge facility" has the same meaning as that set forth in Section 78670.
- 5 (c) For the purposes of this section, "urban water supplier" has 6 the same meaning as that set forth in Section 10617.